

IRB Study # 07-0190

GCRC #: 2579

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Title of Study: Cardioprotective Effects of Omega-3 Fatty Acids Supplementation in Healthy Older Subjects Exposed to Diesel Exhaust

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Faculty Advisor:

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What are some general things you should know about this research study?

Research studies are designed to gain scientific information that may help other people in the future. You may not receive any direct benefit from being in the research study. There also may be risks to being in research studies.

Research with blood, tissue and/or body fluids (specimens) can help researchers understand how the human body works. Research using specimens can also answer other questions. Many different kinds of studies use specimens. Some researchers may develop new tests to find diseases. Others may develop new ways to treat diseases. In the future, some research may help to develop new products, such as drugs.

You may refuse to allow us to have or store your specimen. If you are a patient with an illness, you do not have to be in the research study in order to receive treatment.

Details are discussed below. It is important that you understand this information so that you can make an informed choice. You will be given a copy of this consent form. You should ask the

Initial/Date _____

researchers named above, or staff members who may assist them, any questions you have about this study at any time.

What is the purpose of this study?

Recent reports have shown that people with a particular gene, known as the GSTM1 null gene, are more susceptible to the effect of air pollutants such as ozone and diesel exhaust. The purpose of this research study is to examine the role of the GSTM1 gene in mediating the cardiovascular effects following acute diesel exhaust exposure in GSTM1 null and GSTM1 sufficient healthy older adults.

Diesel exhaust exposure has been found to cause a range of lung and systemic changes in normal subjects. We will be collecting blood samples which will help us to further study this condition. In order to do so, we will need to collect and store blood. Blood samples will be collected in order to look for but not limited to indicators of inflammation due to the diesel exhaust exposure. We may further isolate RNA from blood for genetic analysis. RNA may be isolated for genetic analysis to see if there is a difference between pre- and post diesel exhaust exposures.

All samples will be stored where only project members will have access to the samples. There is a need to store samples in such a repository because this will be an ongoing study where samples from subjects will be collected over an extended period of time. Storing of samples allows for all samples to be processed at the same time and also allows our scientist the opportunity to further study these samples with as yet unknown questions and techniques.

How will the specimen be collected?

The description of the samples to be collected and the manner in which this will be done have been described in the main study consent.

What will happen to the specimen?

Blood samples will be collected in order to look at but not limited to, indicators of inflammation due to the diesel exhaust exposure. If there are excess samples left over after use for the purposes of this specific study, they will be stored at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Human Studies Facility located in Chapel Hill North Carolina. Only project members of the study will have access to the samples.

During the course of this research, other researchers may request access to specimens (or data) for as-of-yet unspecified research that may or may not be related to the original research from which the specimens were derived. In these cases, provided appropriate IRB approved consent has been obtained from subjects, these specimens (or data) will be provided without identifiers to these other researchers by employing a data use agreement.

What are the possible benefits to you?

Benefits to you are unlikely. These studies (current and future) may provide additional information that will be helpful in understanding the cardiovascular effects of diesel exhaust exposure in older population.

What are the possible risks or discomforts involved with being in this study?

Initial/Date _____

This study might involve the following risks and/or discomforts to you:

1. Blood sampling will be performed by medical personnel, and entails only a risk of mild discomfort with the infrequent possibility of lightheadedness, fainting, infection or developing a bruise.
2. Risk of breach of confidentiality is minimal. You will be assigned a study number which will be used for data – not your name. The study number is all that will be entered into computer databases. All paper files which may contain your name or screening number are secure in the EPA building which has limited access 24 hours/day. A numeric coding system will be used to ensure that you cannot be directly identified from the samples alone.

In addition, there may be uncommon or previously unknown risks that might occur. You should report any problems to the researchers

Will there be any cost to you for storage of the specimens?

There will be no cost to you for the storage and use of the specimens for research purposes.

Will you receive anything for being in this study?

You will not receive anything for taking part in this study with regard to storage of excess specimens. Reimbursement for participation in the main study is addressed in the detailed consent for that study.

Who owns the specimens?

Any blood, body fluids, or tissue specimens obtained for the purpose of this study become the exclusive property of The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The researchers may retain, preserve or dispose of these specimens and may use these specimens for research that may result in commercial applications. There are no plans to compensate you for any future commercial use of these specimens.

How will your privacy be protected?

You will be given a study code number. All electronic documents will only have that number. The paper records that the coordinators and medical doctors use may have your name. Your information can be linked to your personal information by the study number, however only study personnel have access to your personal information. Paper records which use your name are kept in a locked file cabinet in the EPA Medical Station of the Human Studies Facility. The Medical Station is locked when not attended by study staff, and the EPA Human Studies Facility has limited access to authorized individuals only, 24 hours/day for 7 days/week. Samples used for genetic analysis will be stored at the EPA Human Studies Facility.

Research studies may be done at many places at the same time. Your personal identifying information will not be sent to outside researchers.

No one will be identified in any report or publication about this study. Although every effort will be made to keep research records private, there may be times when federal or state law requires

Initial/Date _____

the disclosure of such records, including personal information. This is very unlikely, but if disclosure is ever required, UNC-Chapel Hill will take steps allowable by law to protect the privacy of personal information. In some cases, your information in this research study could be reviewed by representatives of the University, research sponsors, or government agencies for purposes such as quality control or safety.

Will researchers seek approval from you to do future studies involving the specimens?

By signing this consent form, you are giving your permission for researchers to use your specimens as described above. Current and future research is overseen by a committee called the Institutional Review Board (IRB). The role of the IRB is to protect the rights and welfare of research participants.

In some cases, the IRB may require that you be re-contacted and asked for your consent to use your specimens in a specific research study. You have the right, at that future time, not to participate in any research study for which your consent is sought. Refusal to participate will not affect your medical care or result in loss of benefits to which you are entitled.

Will you receive study results of future research involving your specimens?

Most research with your specimens is not expected to yield new information that would be meaningful to share with you individually. In rare cases, you may be offered the opportunity to receive information about the results of research in which the specimens were used (for example, findings that would affect your medical care).

Can you withdraw the specimens from the research study?

If you decide that you no longer wish for the specimens to be stored, you should contact the researchers on the front page of this form. You may also contact the Institutional Review Board, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 919-966-3113, Medical School Building 52, CB 7097, Chapel Hill, NC 27599, or by email at IRB_subjects@unc.edu. It is best to make your request in writing.

Any analysis in progress at the time of your request or already performed prior to your request being received by the researcher will continue to be used as part of the research study. Once the researchers have been notified, your specimens would be destroyed. If you do not make such a request, the specimens may be stored forever. The researchers may choose to destroy the specimens at any time.

What will happen if you are injured by this research?

All research involves a chance that something bad might happen to you. This may include the risk of personal injury. In spite of all safety measures, you might develop a reaction or injury from having your specimen collected. If such problems occur, the researchers will help you get medical care, but any costs for the medical care will be billed to you and/or your insurance company. **Neither the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill nor the U.S. EPA has set aside funds to pay you for any such reactions or injuries, or for the related medical care.** If you believe you have suffered a research-related injury, you have the right to pursue legal remedy if you believe that your injury justifies such action. The Federal Tort Claims Act, 28 U.S.C. S 2671 et seq., provides for money damages against the United States when property loss

Initial/Date _____

or personal injury results from negligent or wrongful act or omission of any employee of the EPA while acting within the scope of his or her employment. Signing this consent form does not waive any of your legal rights or release the investigator, the sponsor, the institution, or its agents from liability for negligence. If a research-related injury occurs, you should contact the Director of the EPA NHEERL Human Research Protocol Office at 919-966-6217.

Who is sponsoring this study?

This research is funded by The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. This means that the research team is being paid by the sponsor for doing the study. The researchers do not, however, have a direct financial interest with the sponsor or in the final results of the study.

What if you have questions about this study?

You have the right to ask, and have answered, any questions you may have about this research. If you have questions, you should contact the researchers listed on the first page of this form or the EPA Director of the National Health and Environmental Effects Human Research Laboratory Protocol Office at 919-966-6217.

What if you have questions about your rights as a research subject?

All research on human subjects is reviewed by a committee that works to protect your rights and welfare. If you have questions or concerns about your rights as a research subject you may contact, anonymously, if you wish, the Institutional Review Board at 919-966-3113 or by email to IRB_ subjects@unc.edu and/or the EPA Director of the National Health and Environmental Effects Human Research Laboratory Protocol Office at 919-966-6217.

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Subject's Agreement:

I have read the information provided above. I have asked all the questions I have at this time. I voluntarily agree to participate. I agree to my specimen(s) being stored with the identifying code(s).

Signature of Research Subject

Date

Printed Name of Research Subject

Signature of Person Obtaining Consent

Date

Printed Name of Person Obtaining Consent

Initial/Date _____